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MS. MCKENNA: My name is Betty Plaza McKenna,

8 B-E-T-T-Y, P-L-A-Z-A, M-C-K-E-N-N-A.

9 It is a joke among the United States

10 Department of Energy, the Yucca Mountain project

11 developers, and the politicians in Washington that

12 Nevada was chosen as the site to store low-level

13 radioactive materials and do nuclear testing because no

14 one from Nevada showed up when the site was picked.

15 Well, as you can see, a lot of people showed up today.

16 I'm not naive enough to believe that anything I say

17 today in front of this forum is going to change any of

18 your minds in going forward with your future plans

19 because when it comes down to it, there really isn't a

20 more suitable site in the whole country because your

21 scientists haven't come up with a better plan or do not

22 choose to look at alternatives.

23 The Nevada test site has already created a

24 location for us to ensure that our nuclear weapons are

25 still operable so that we can protect our country. It

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1 has also provided a dumping ground for all of the

2 country's low-level radioactive materials to be stored.

3 But now the stakes are much higher because we're now

4 talking about storing high-level radioactive materials

5 and with that, we inherit a lot of risk that none of

6 your reports talk about.

7 In your own reports, you state that the DOE

8 scientists are still studying the site to determine

9 whether it is suitable or not. So your own scientists

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10 are not even sure and that's after spending \$6 billion.
11 By all your reports, seems to me that the people of the
12 Amargosa Valley and Nye County are expendable. They
13 may be to you, but not to me. And neither are any of
14 the men and women you will be transporting in from
15 Clark County.

16 By going on the tour of the test site, most
17 of the selling points of this new project is that if
18 there are any problems, it will be in about 30 or 40
19 years. I don't know if the scientists or the DOE's
20 employees or any of the Yucca Mountain project
21 developers have any grandchildren, but I do. And so do
22 many of the people that are out here today. This is
23 not an inheritance I would like to leave behind like
24 what's happening now in Marion, Ohio, and other parts
25 of the country.

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1 So now, all that remains in my mind are a lot
2 of questions. What are you going to do to subsidize
3 the roads and all of these trucks that will be
4 destroying our roads on a daily basis? What are you
5 going to do to control and clean up the air pollution
6 created by all the extra traffic? What are you going
7 to do when some of your employees start having
8 defective babies? What are you going to do when you
9 leave a widow in the streets because her husband dies
10 prematurely and you all already know that this is
11 already happening. What are you going to do to ensure
12 that proper funds are in place to compensate the lives

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13 you ruin? What are you going to do to ensure that the
14 inherent dangers in cleanup expenses do not become a
15 problem for the Nye County or Clark County taxpayer.
16 What are you going to do when you have a nuclear
17 disaster? Notice I didn't say "if," I said "when."
18 Who will supply all the body bags all the way up to San
19 Bernardino?

20 The test site is surrounded by fault lines.
21 There are seven volcano heads in the site and around
22 it. It has a military target practice range. So we
23 all know that it's just a matter of when. It is the
24 State of Nevada and its citizens that will be mostly
25 affected if we become the country's high-level

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1 radioactive materials dumping site. As a citizen of
2 Las Vegas, North Las Vegas, and Clark County, I would
3 like to see this decision put to us in a ballot and if
4 we decide to turn down your request to store high-level
5 radioactive materials in the state of Nevada, you
6 should abide by it and your scientists should come up
7 with a better plan. Our state and its citizens are not
8 disposable. So I say let's vote on it.